

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device provided by some of a plurality of users is remotely writable by these users through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory the particular additional information about the medical examination device while correlating the particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the particular additional information relates to an inspection result and a usage record of the medical examination device; and

sharing and utilizing the particular additional information about the medical examination device among ~~a~~ the plurality of users based on the identification of the medical examination device,

wherein said sharing and utilizing step further comprises defining and maintaining a division between at least two classes of information stored in the memory, and permitting a patient to ~~view~~ directly access only information in a first of those two classes but not

information in the second of those two classes, and permitting at least one user other than the patient to ~~view~~ directly access information that is in the second of those two classes.

Claim 2. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first and second particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 3. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional

information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 4. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing

down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from among the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 5. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

writing down fourth particular additional information relating to a disposal after the inspection in the memory while correlating the fourth particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from the first to fourth particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 6. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, and a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying the identification of the medical examination device, and writing down in the memory first particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device while correlating the first particular additional information with the identification;

writing down second particular additional information relating to a circulation in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification;

writing down, through an inspected person, third particular additional information relating to an inspection in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification;

reading out one or more pieces from the first to third particular additional information based on the identification; and

sharing and utilizing plural pieces of particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 7. (withdrawn): An information processing method that utilizes a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses, a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device, a plurality of input / output units for remotely writing information into and reading the information from the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said method comprising the step of sharing and utilizing the particular additional information about the medical examination device among a plurality of users based on the identification.

Claim 8. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the network is the Internet.

Claim 9. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, wherein the particular additional information about the medical examination device includes information of a lifetime of the medical examination device.

Claims 10 - 14. (cancelled)

Claim 15. (withdrawn): An information processing system comprising:
a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;

a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and

a plurality of input units for remotely writing the particular additional information down in the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said input units being provided at least for a supplier of the medical examination device, a seller who sells the medical examination device supplied by the supplier, and an inspection institution that inspects the medical examination device.

Claim 16. (withdrawn): An information processing system comprising:

a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;

a memory into which particular additional information about the medical examination device is remotely writable through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and

a plurality of input units for remotely writing the particular additional information down in the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, said input units being provided at least for a supplier of the medical examination device, a seller who sells the medical examination device supplied by the supplier, and an examinee subject to an examination using the medical examination device.

Claim 17. (withdrawn): An information processing system comprising:

a medical examination device as a medium, which has been assigned a unique identification used for medical examinations and diagnoses;

a memory, particular additional information about the medical examination device being remotely writable into and readable from the memory through a network based on the identification of the medical examination device; and

a plurality of input/output units for remotely writing and reading the particular additional information in and from the memory through the network based on the identification of the medical examination device, wherein a plurality of users share and utilize, based on the identification, the particular additional information including the usage of the medical examination device which has been written while correlated with the identification in the memory.

Claim 18. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the network is the Internet.

Claim 19. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the particular additional information relating to a usage of the medical examination device includes information of a lifetime of the medical examination device.

Claim 20. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a device for inspection with a quartz crystal microbalance reaction.

Claim 21. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a DNA chip.

Claim 22. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a lab on a chip that provides a channel on a substrate for processes on the substrate through a chemical or physical reaction.

Claim 23. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a protein chip.

Claim 24. (withdrawn): A system according to claim 15, wherein the medical examination device is a DNA micro-array.

Claim 25. (withdrawn): A method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of users comprises venders, distributors, inspection institutions, and individual users, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

writing down second particular additional information about the medical examination device in the memory while correlating the second particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the second particular additional information relates to a circulation of the medical examination device; and

writing down third particular additional information about the medical examination device in the memory while correlating the third particular additional information with the identification of the medical examination device, wherein the third particular information relates to an inspection of the medical examination device.